

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following specification for the specification in the application.

POLISH CLEANING APPARATUS AND METHOD IN MANUFACTURE OF HGA

Related Application

RC [0001] This application is a Divisional of Patent Application 09/810,833 filed on March 16, 2001. ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,645,308}
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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates generally to a cleaning and polishing apparatus and method used in the disk drive industry. More specifically, the present invention relates to a cleaning and polishing apparatus and method used in the manufacture of a head gimbal assembly.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Thin film heads are used for reading or writing data onto a recording layer of a data storage disk. Typically, the head "flies" above the surface of the disk at a very low "altitude". The height of the air gap between the head and the disk is usually measured in fractions of a micron. The low height of the air gap causes an air bearing to be formed.

[0004] For a disk that stores data using magnetic effects, the head usually includes a radio frequency coil for transmitting and receiving a magnetic field to write and read in the recording layer. For disks that store data using optical effects, the head may include an objective lens to focus a light beam at the recording layer.

[0005] Along with the evolution of the disk industry, the surface cleanliness of read-write heads has become one of the most critical concerns. With low-flying heads, dust in the environment is a serious problem. Dust particles can cause catastrophic "head crashes"